Consumption; of Electricity in North Bihar

900. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the per capita consump tion of electricity in North Bihar;

.(b) whether it is comparable with other backward areas of the country; and

(c) if not the remedial action proposed, if any, to augment the power supply in North Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) The per capita consumption of electricity in North Bihar in 1983-84 was 18.42 units.

(b) It is comparable with some of the States in North-Eastern Region. For example 12.77 units in Manipur and 20.60 units in Tripura in the same year.

(c) A number of measures are being undertaken to improve power supply position in Bihar which include reno vation and modernisation of thermal power stations and accelerating the commissioning of new generating ca pacity.

Illiteracy in the Country

901. SHRI BHUVNESH CHATUR VEDI; Will the Minister of EDUCA TION be pleased to state:

(a) what was the percentage of illiterates in the country in 1950;

(b) the latest percentage of illiterates in the country; and

(c) the present policy of Government to remove illiteracy and when the target is likely to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) According to 1951 census, the percentage of illiterates to the total population in the country was 83.33.

(b) According to 1981 census, the percentage of illiterates to the total population was 63.77 excluding Assam, where the census could not be held.

(c) Government have accorded high priority to the Adult Education Programme by including it in the Minimum Needs Programme of the Sixth Five Year Plan and in the New 20-Point Programme. The following strategies have been adopted:-—

•—to caver districts with literacy rate below national level; priority to the target group of women, schedul ed castes, scheduled tribes and other weaker sections of the society;

—to enlist larger participation of students in the Adult Education Pro-gramme;

—to provide grants-in-aid to volun. tary organisations in the field of adult education;

—to strengthen post-literacy programme to avoid relapse into illiteracy of the neo-literates; and

—to utilize the official and electro, nic media and to use folk media **for** motivational purposes.

The Sixth Plan document envisages the removal of illiteracy in the age group 15-35 by 1990.

Use of Household Detergents— A Health Hazard

902. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ:
SHRI J. P. GOYAL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

fa) whether it is a fact that a study conducted by the Industrial Toxicology' Research' Centre, Lucknow has revealed that the use of household detergents can cause skin cancer and lead to severe vision impairment;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what preventive measures are proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKAR A-NAND): (a) to (c) Necessary information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House in due course.

Supply of sub-standard Quinine-based drugs by the Delhi Administration

903. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ:
SHRI J. P. GOYAL: SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE;

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice *o,i* Government that the quinine-based drugs being supplied by the Delhi Ad. ministration to fight the malaria out break in Delhi are proving to be sub standard and do not cure the fever, according to the Indian Federation of Doctors;

(b) if so, what is the source of supply of these substandard medicines;

(c) whether Government have stop, ped the import of effective medicines and if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken against the local pharmaceuticals for producing sub-standard medicines?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARA-NAND); (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government have not stopped the import of any anti-malaria drug such as Chloroquine which is permitted to be imported through the State Trading Corporation.

(d) Actions are taken against the Local Licensed Pharmaceutical manufacturing firms for producing substandard drugs such as suspension of drugs, permission is withdrawn to manufacture particular product which was not of standard Quality. In case of minor offence warning is issued.

Electrocution Deaths due to the Negligence DBSU Employees

904. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ:
SHRI J. P. GOYAL:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) how many persons have so far been electrocuted in Delhi during the last three, years upto 31st July, 1985 by open cables of the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking;

(b) whether it is a fact that these deaths have occurred due to the negligence on the part of employees of the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking;

(c) what action has been taken against employees; and

(d) whether anw compensation has been given to the victims of electrocution and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) to (d) The Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Financing of Open School Project' by the CBSE

905. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state;

(a) whether there is any proposal to fully finance the 'Open School Project' by the Central Board of Secondary Education for the propagation of education; and